Code of Conduct 2024/2025

Our Code of Conduct is designed to provide guidelines for appropriate student behaviour while under the jurisdiction of the school or at any school-sponsored function.

Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination

In accordance with the "prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in the BC *Human Rights Code* (RSBC 1996, c. 210)," Students will not discriminate against others on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia.

Neither will a student make gestures, publish, or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against an individual or group, or expose them to contempt or ridicule on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia.

Rationale:

To promote a safe, caring and orderly learning environment for all students. We believe in respecting and valuing all people and voices and providing engaging learning opportunities for the students in our school. Our expectations are that students will maintain an attitude that is cooperative, courteous and respectful.

Some Examples of Acceptable Behaviour

In the classroom:

- being kind.
- using an inside voice.
- keeping hands to ourselves.
- trying our best.
- taking care of our things.
- listening to others.

In the Hallways:

- being quiet.
- walking in line.
- keeping our hands to ourselves.
- not playing.

On the playground:

- taking turns and including others.
- leaving rocks, sticks and snow on the ground.
- keeping the ground free of litter
- keeping hands to ourselves.
- using kind language.

In the washrooms:

- cleaning up our messes.
- respecting others' privacy.
- being kind to others.
- keeping our hands to ourselves.
- not playing.

BE SAFE and **BE RESPECTFUL** to **YOURSELF**, to **OTHERS** and to **PROPERTY**.

Some Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour:

- Verbal or physical aggression
- Rudeness or swearing
- Physically dangerous behaviour to self or others (throwing objects such as sticks, rocks, snowballs etc.)
- Defiant behaviour, insolence, lack of respect, teasing
- Misusing or damaging property or equipment

Safe and Caring School Environments:

Are Free From Acts Of

- Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and marginalization
- Threat and intimidation
- Violence in any form
- Abuse in any form
- Discrimination in any form
- Retribution against anyone who reported an incident

Do Not Tolerate the Presence Of

- Theft or vandalism
- Intoxicating or banned substances
- Weapons or replica (toy) weapons and explosives
- Intruders or trespassers

Do Not Tolerate The Misuse Of

• Cyberspace, Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Computers

Students will not be permitted use of their personal cell phones/electronic devices from the time they arrive on school grounds to the time they depart school property.

Students who have a cell phone with them will be required to turn off the phone, and leave in a secure classroom holder until dismissal. Parents/guardians will be responsible for informing the classroom teacher if their child will have a phone/device so that they may turn it in daily.

If parents/guardians need to reach their children during the day, please call the school at 250-782-5206 or text 250-219-5206. The school will not be responsible for lost, missing or damaged cell phones/electronic devices.

Use of cell phones/electronic devices at school will result in device removal to the office for the remainder of the day. Depending on the circumstance, further follow-up and/or consequences may be required related to the use. Continued infractions may result in escalating consequences and/or a plan to prevent further misuse will be implemented at the discretion of school administration.

Consequences:

Consequences will be applied in a fair and consistent manner, respecting individual rights, responsibilities, age and maturity; and be restorative rather than punitive in nature.

Inappropriate Behaviour Typically Has The Following Consequences (not necessarily in the order listed):

- Review of expectations and a timeout
- Review of expectations, written assignment and/or loss of privileges
- Parents are informed
- Meeting with parents
- Possible short-term(in school or at home) suspension up to 5 days
- Possible change in schedule or program
- Consultation with police and/or fire department
- Expulsion
- Restorative practices (restorative conversation, circle and/or conference)
- Work with staff and family to develop a plan to address the behavior

These expectations apply to:

- behaviour at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, and
- behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour) that negatively impacts the safe, caring or orderly environments of the school, and/or student learning.

In the event that a serious breach of our Code of Conduct occurs, school officials may have a responsibility to advise other parties. These may include parents, school district officials, police, Ministry of Children and Family Development, and/or other agencies. Students need to feel comfortable informing a trusted adult, in a timely manner of any breaches in our Code of Conduct. Acts of retribution against a person who has reported incidents are unacceptable and will be treated in a serious manner.

Learning Atmosphere (Dress)

The general rule for the dress code is for *students to dress in a manner appropriate to establish a positive and safe learning environment at school*. This means that clothes that may be appropriate in other settings may not be appropriate for school. *School administration reserves the right to judge what is or is not appropriate*.

- Footwear must, for safety reasons, be worn at all times.
- Clothing of any kind condoning violence, profanity, hatred, discrimination, negative stereotypes, or promoting illegal drug use or abuse of alcohol are not appropriate.

Accommodation of Students with Special Needs:

Special consideration may apply to students who are unable to comply with the code due to a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

Notification

As circumstances warrant, administrators have a responsibility to advise other parties following a behaviour incident:

- Parent of student exhibiting major behaviours (in every instance)
- Parent of student (if any) on the receiving end (in every instance)
- Superintendent, Safe Schools Team Member and/or other District Staff
- Ministerial agencies and/or School Liaison Officer (Police)

The Ecole Frank Ross School Code of Conduct has been structured to align with and adhere to the standards outlined in:

- The School Act
- B.C. Human Rights Code
- B.C. Ministry of Education: Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools Guide (2014)